

GROUND WATER INVESTIGATION
TRONOX NAVAJO AREA URANIUM MINES
SAN MATEO CREEK BASIN
Grants Mining District, NM

August 1, 2017

A GOAL OF EPA'S 2015 GRANTS MINING DISTRICT FIVE-YEAR PLAN

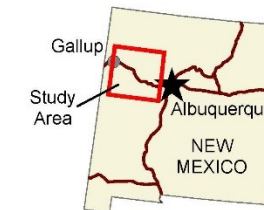
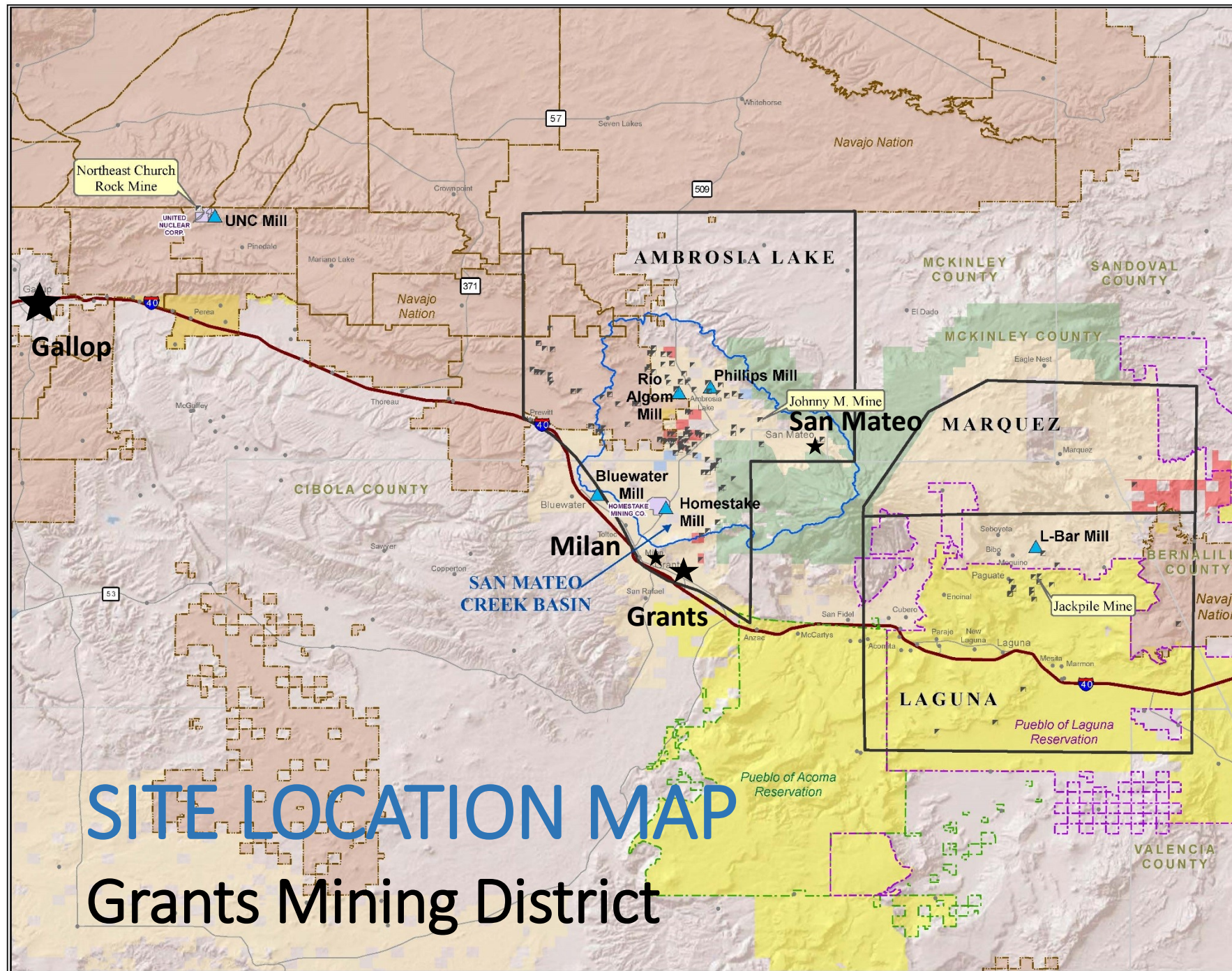
- ASSESS URANIUM INDUSTRY IMPACTS ON WATER SUPPLY SOURCES
 - Concern for Potential Widespread Degradation of Ground Water Quality
- BUILD CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL BY 2018
 - Use as a Tool to Understand Impacts on Ground Water
- COLLABORATE WITH NM, DOE AND NRC
 - Share Information on Legacy Mines and Mills and Collect Ground Water Data



COORDINATION WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- COMMUNITY
- REGULATORY PARTNERS OF 5-YEAR PLAN
 - NM Environment and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Departments
 - NM Department of Health
 - USFS
 - DOE
 - NRC
 - DOI
 - ATSDR
 - Laguna Pueblo
- NAVAJO NATION AND REGION 9
 - Navajo Funded Portion of Study from Tronox Settlement
- ACOMA PUEBLO
- ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS
 - Multi-cultural Alliance for Safe Environment
 - Bluewater Valley Downstream Alliance
- US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





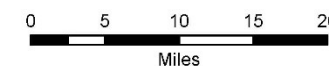
- Uranium Mine
- ▲ Mill Location
- City or Town
- ▭ Uranium Sub-District
- ▭ Pueblo of Acoma
- ▭ Pueblo of Laguna
- ▭ Navajo Nation Chapter
- ▭ Navajo Nation Ownership
- ▭ San Mateo Basin
- ▭ NPL Site
- ▭ County

Land Ownership for Tracts with Mines

- ▭ Bureau of Land Management
- ▭ Forest Service
- ▭ Tribal Land
- ▭ Private Land
- ▭ State Land

Note:
The Land Ownership layer as displayed is not complete.
The only areas displayed are those containing one or more mines.

Sources:
MMD Legacy Uranium Mine Inventory: 12/2008.
EPA Region 6 National Priorities List (NPL): 5/2015.
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Land Ownership.
Navajo Land Department 2016. Census Bureau 2000
TIGER/Line. ESRI World Shaded Relief.



EPA Region 6
Superfund
GIS Support
04/25/2016




20160425MLO1



SAN MATEO CREEK DRAINAGE BASIN

LEGEND

 Navajo Land

 Legacy
Uranium
Mine

 Uranium
Wet Mine

321 Square Miles

81 Mines (Total)

25 Wet Mines

4 Uranium Mills

Ambrosia Lake
Area

DOE Phillips
Mill

Rio Algom
Mill

DOE Anaconda
Bluewater
Mill Site

Homestake Mill
NPL Site

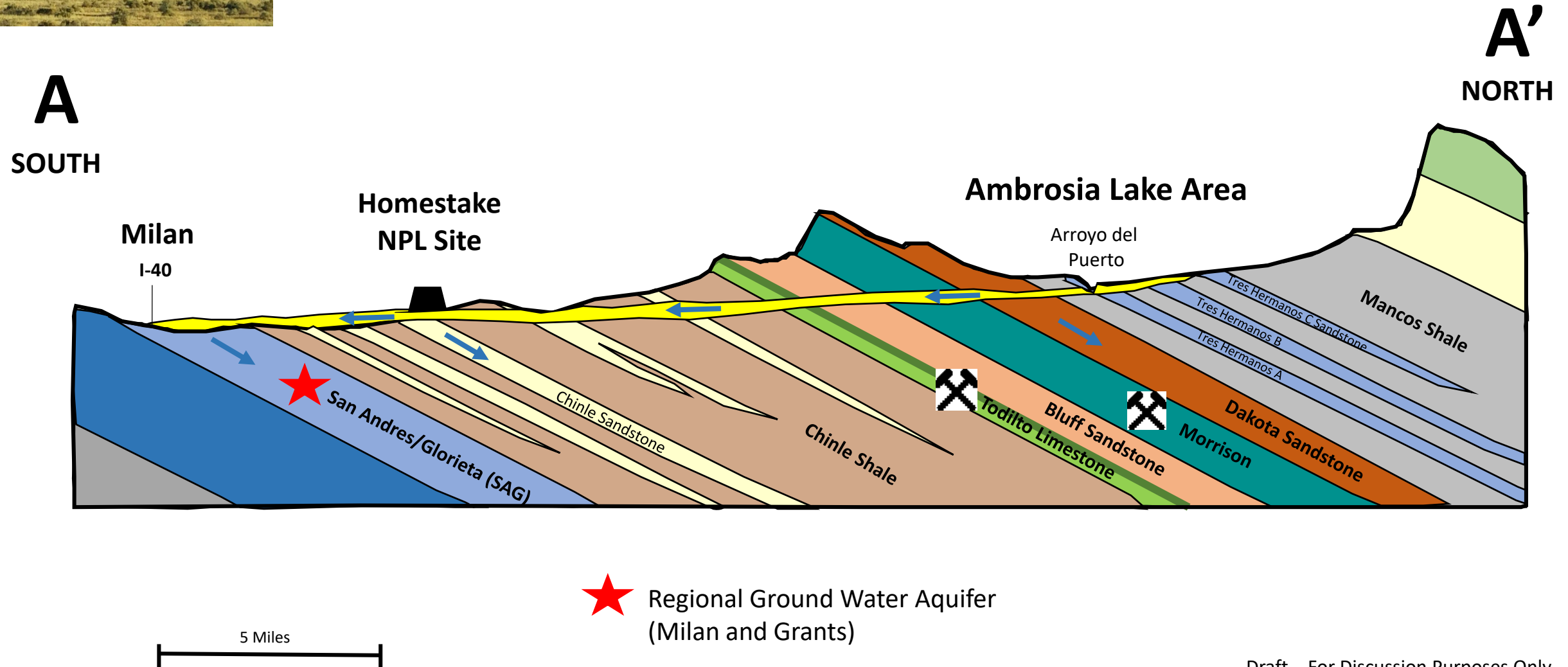
San Mateo

MT. TAYLOR

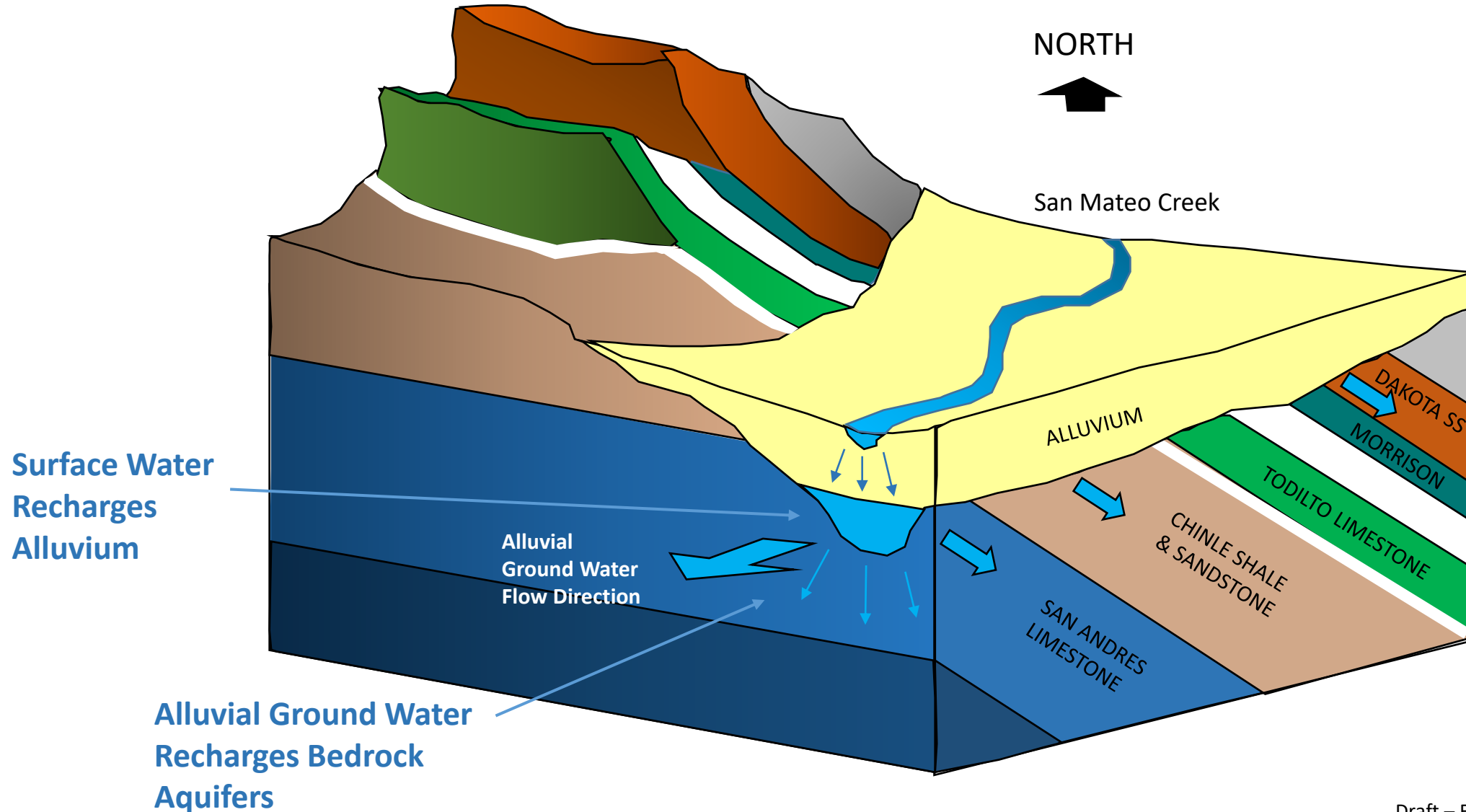


CONCEPTUAL SITE GROUND WATER MODEL

Generalized Cross Section Through San Mateo Creek Basin



CONCEPTUAL SITE GROUND WATER MODEL



MINE WATER DISCHARGE


Ambrosia Lake Area

(Late 1950s – Early 1980s)

(Late 1950s – Early 1980s)

An Estimated
90 – 150 Billion Gallons
Discharged in GMD

12.5 Billion Gallons Discharged

 **Uranium Ore Deposit**

 **Uranium Ore Deposit**

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WHAT ARE IMPACTS TO BASIN
FROM DISCHARGE OF LARGE VOLUMES OF
MINE WATER?

SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

Discharge
Artificially Created
Perennial Surface
Flow

May have reached
Homestake
Impoundment
(EPA 1980)

 WET MINE

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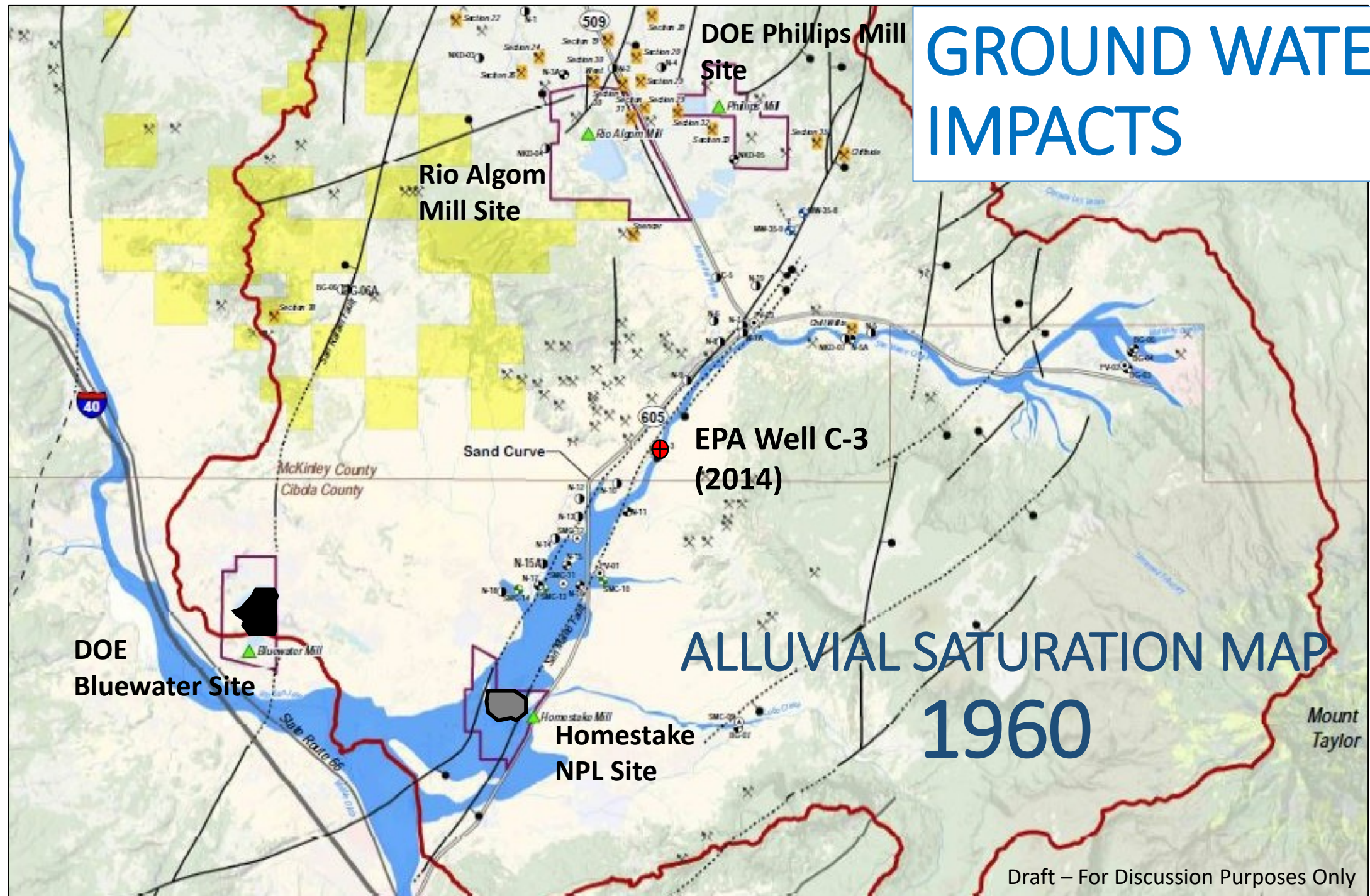
SUMMARY OF HISTORIC MINE WATER DISCHARGE QUALITY

And Comparison to Alluvial Background Water Quality

Contaminant	1981 Mine Water Discharge Ambrosia Lake Area	1981 Mine Water Discharge San Mateo Area	1978-80 San Mateo Creek Upland Alluvial GW (Background)
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	580	1,100	2.5 – 15.0
Uranium (mg/L)	2.4	0.080	0.005 – 0.010
Selenium (mg/L)	0.410	0.040	0.005 – 0.005
Molybdenum (mg/L)	0.79	0.32	0.005 – 0.010
Chloride (mg/L)	90	10	3 – 8
Sulfate (mg/L)	837	205	5-20
Total Dissolved Solid (ppm)	1,690	520	125 – 300

New Mexico 1981 and 1986 Reports

GROUND WATER IMPACTS



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CROSS SECTION A - A' CENTRAL SAN MATEO CREEK BASIN AREA

A

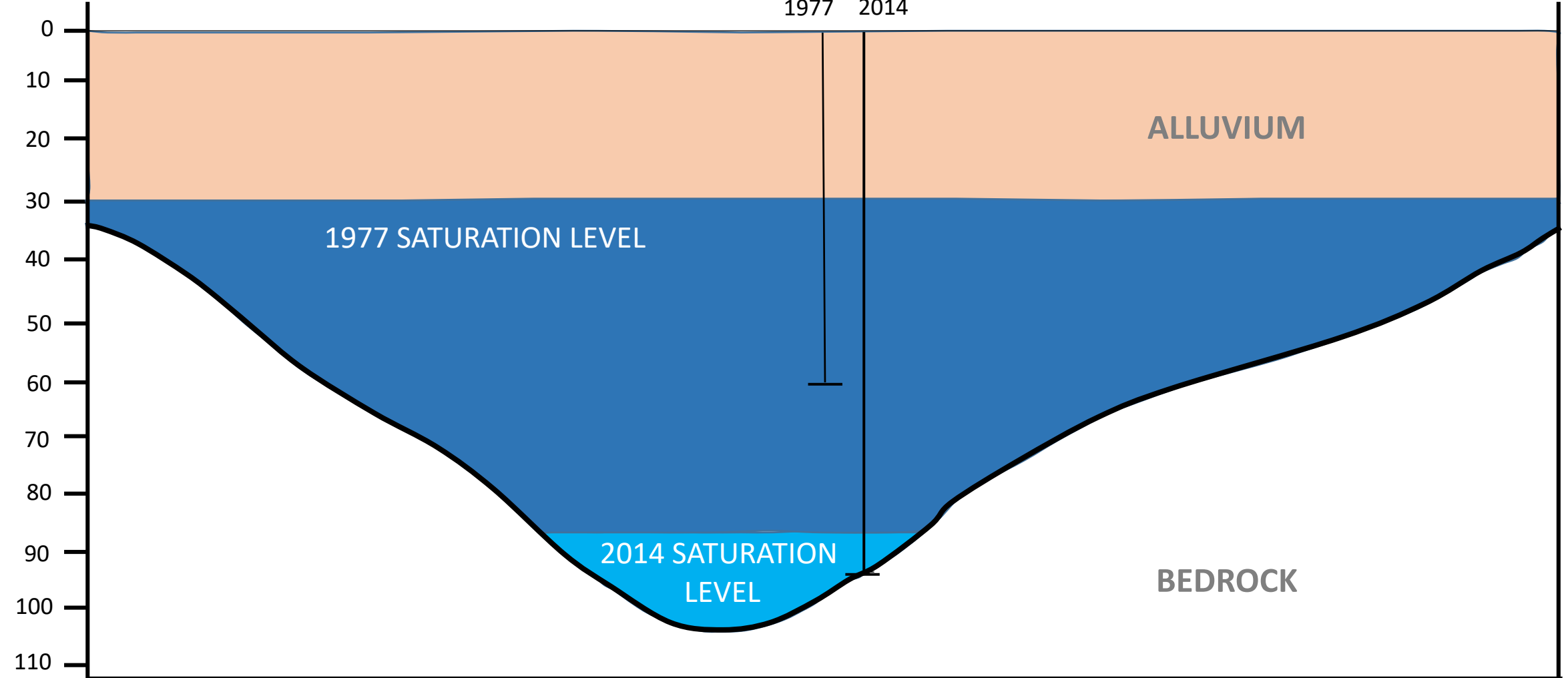
West

A'

East

Depth
(ft)

NMED	EPA
Monitoring	Monitoring Well
Well	C-3
1977	2014



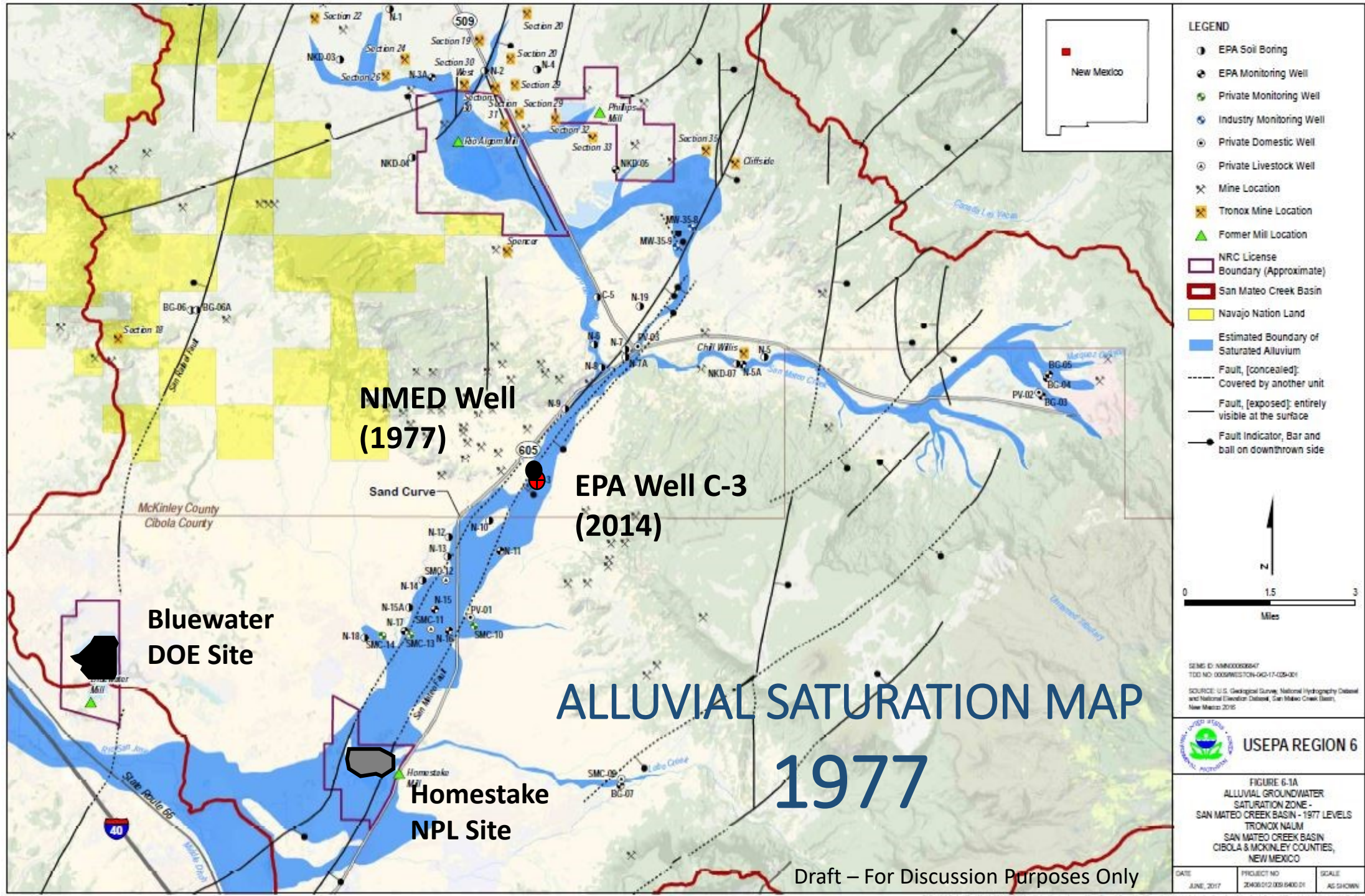
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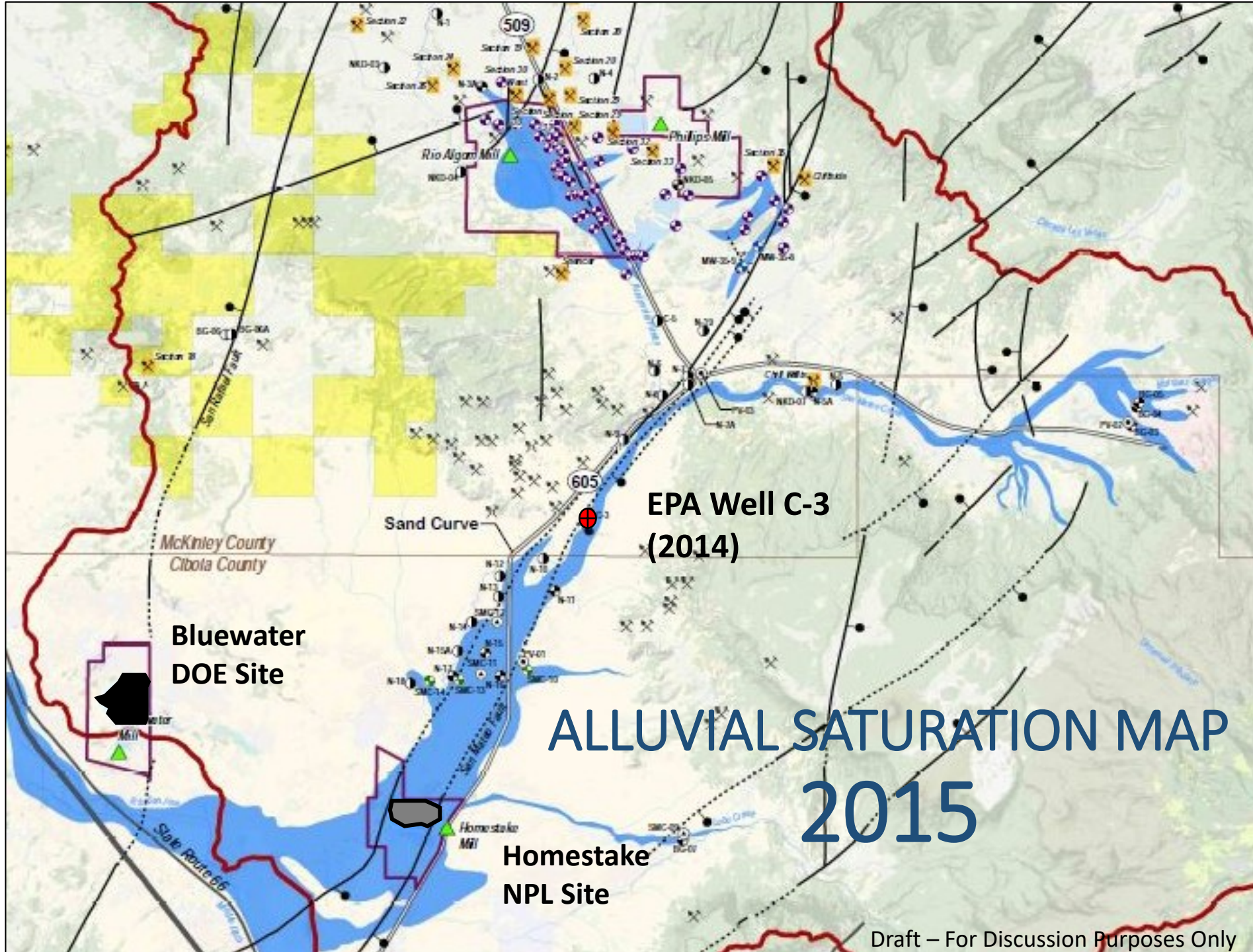
HYDROGEOLOGIC CROSS-SECTION

NOR

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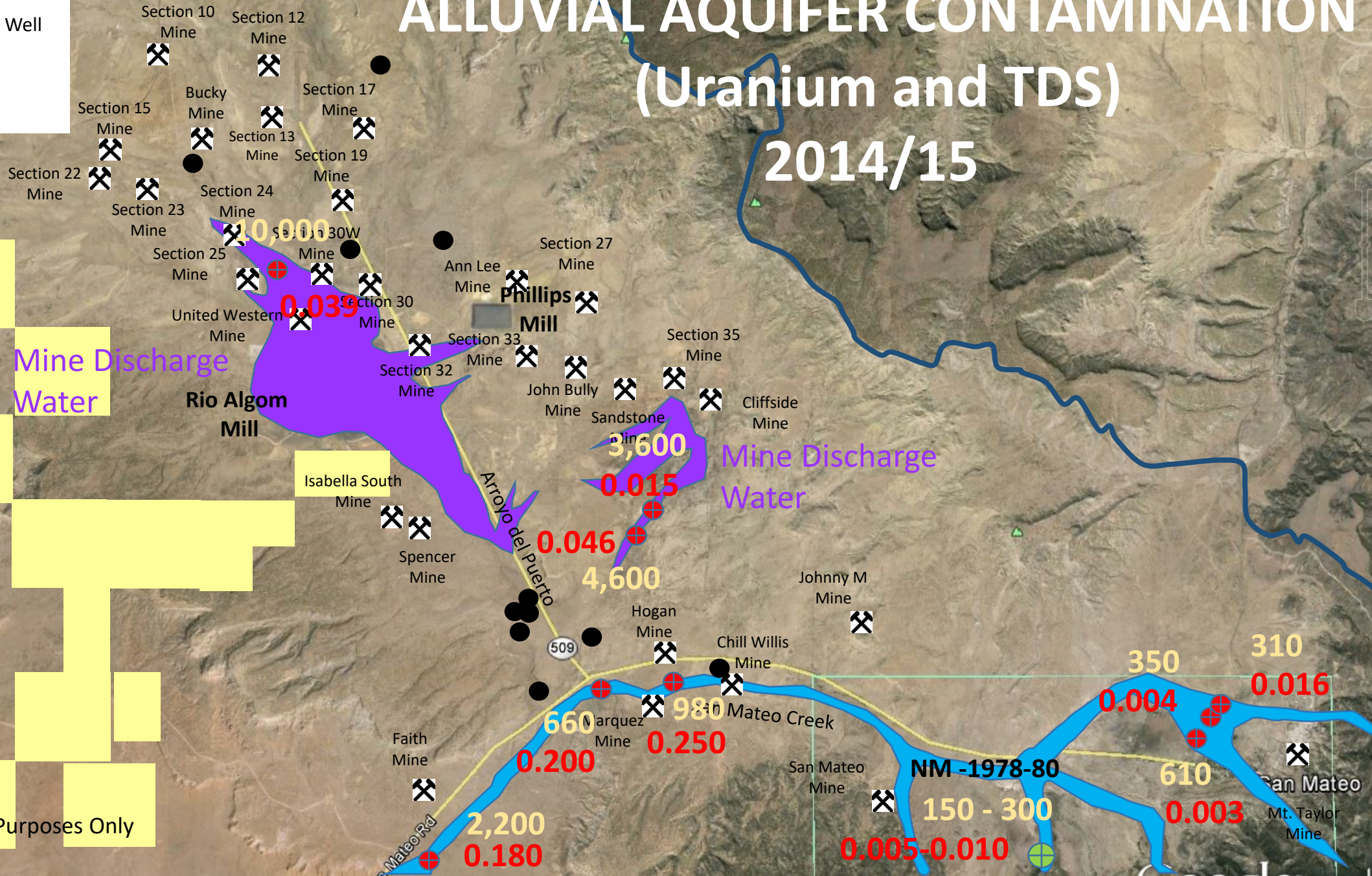
EPA Well C-3
(2014)

Bluewater
DOE Site

ALLUVIAL SATURATION MAP 2015

Homestake
NPL Site

N



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A satellite map of a region in San Mateo County, California. The map shows a mix of brown, tan, and dark green terrain, indicating a combination of arid land and forested areas. Several roads are visible, including Interstate 40 (labeled 40), State Route 122 (labeled 122), State Route 605 (labeled 605), and State Route 547 (labeled 547). A yellow line traces a path through the landscape, likely representing a water discharge or a study boundary. A white rectangular box highlights a specific area of interest. Labels include 'Frontage Rd' along Interstate 40, 'Bluewater DOE Site' near a small blue pond, 'Homestake NPL Site' near a small black structure, and 'San Mateo' in the upper right. The main title is centered in large white letters.

WHAT IS EXTENT OF MINE WATER DISCHARGE IMPACTS TO LOWER SMC BASIN?

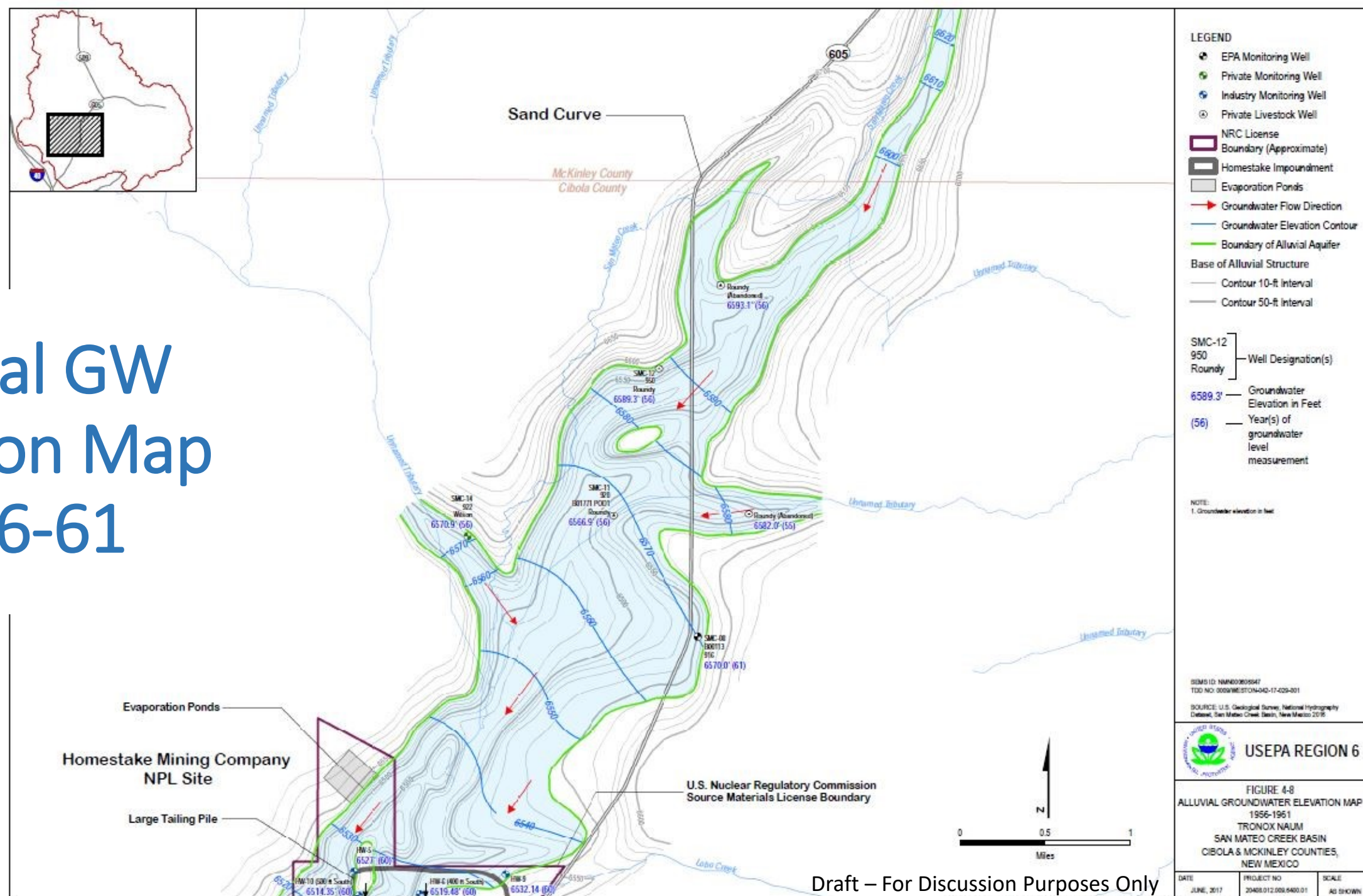
**Bluewater
DOE Site**

Area of Detailed Study

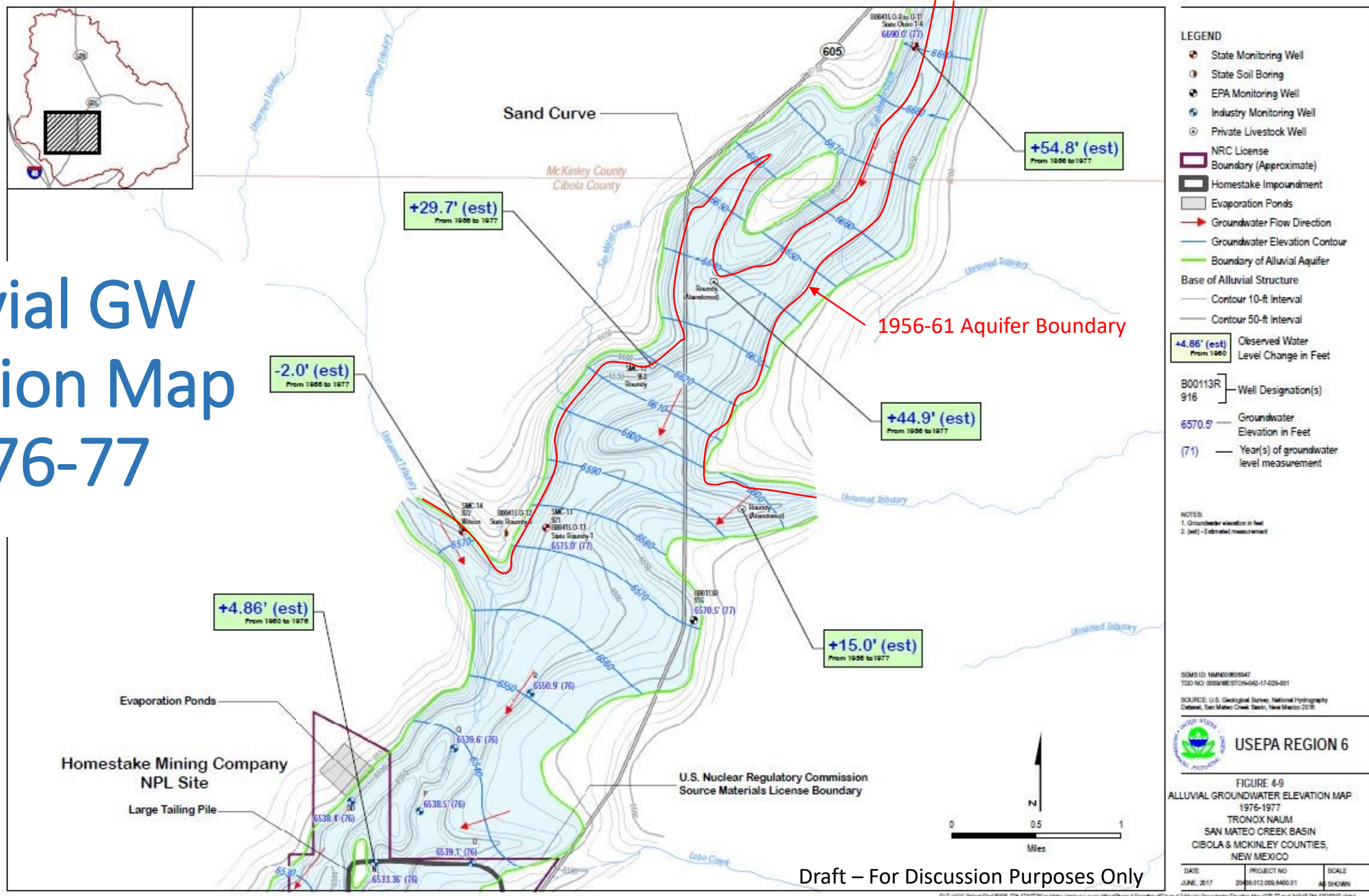
**Homestake
NPL Site**

San Mateo

Alluvial GW Elevation Map 1956-61

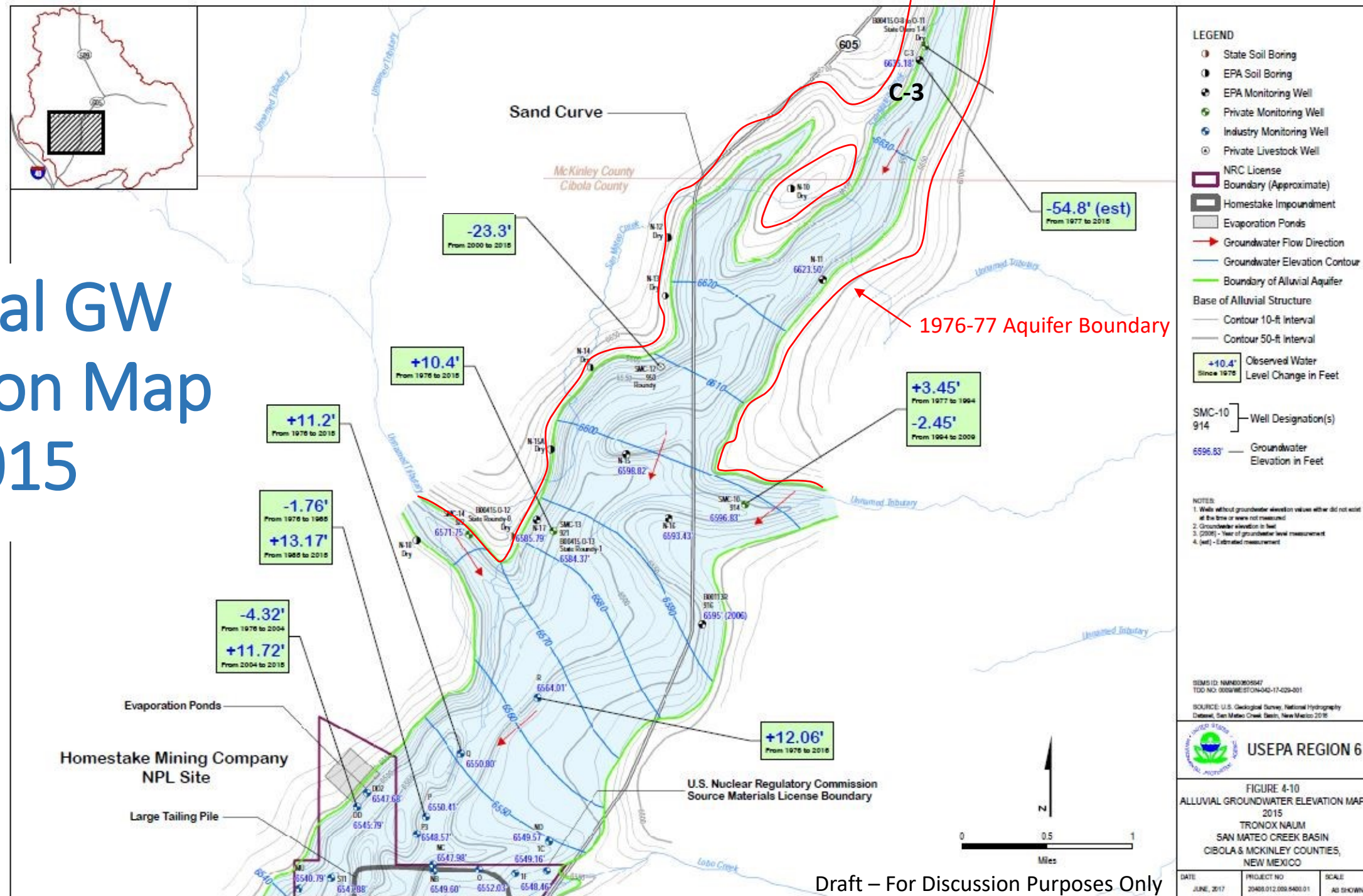


Alluvial GW Elevation Map 1976-77



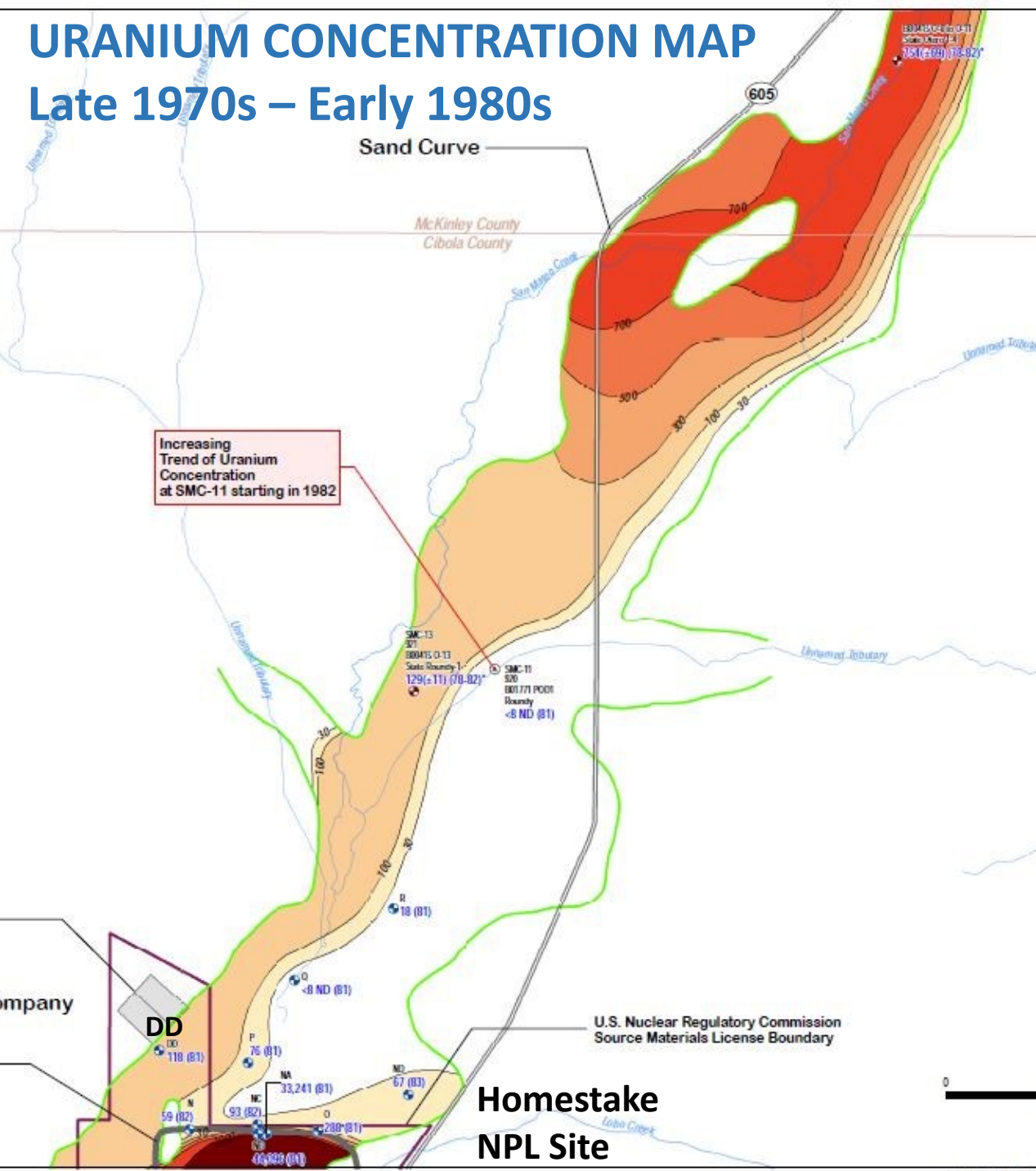
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Alluvial GW Elevation Map 2015



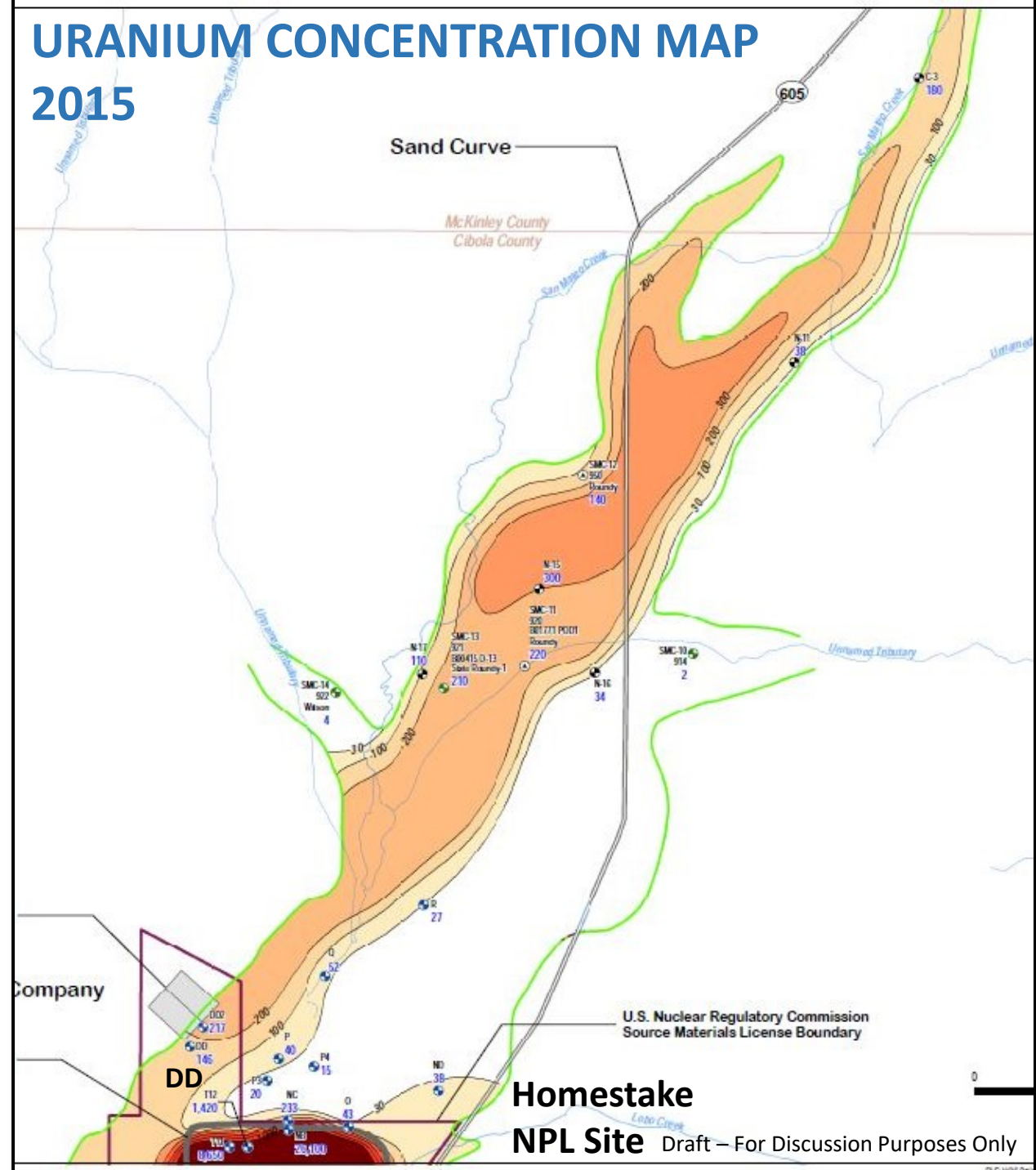
URANIUM CONCENTRATION MAP

Late 1970s – Early 1980s

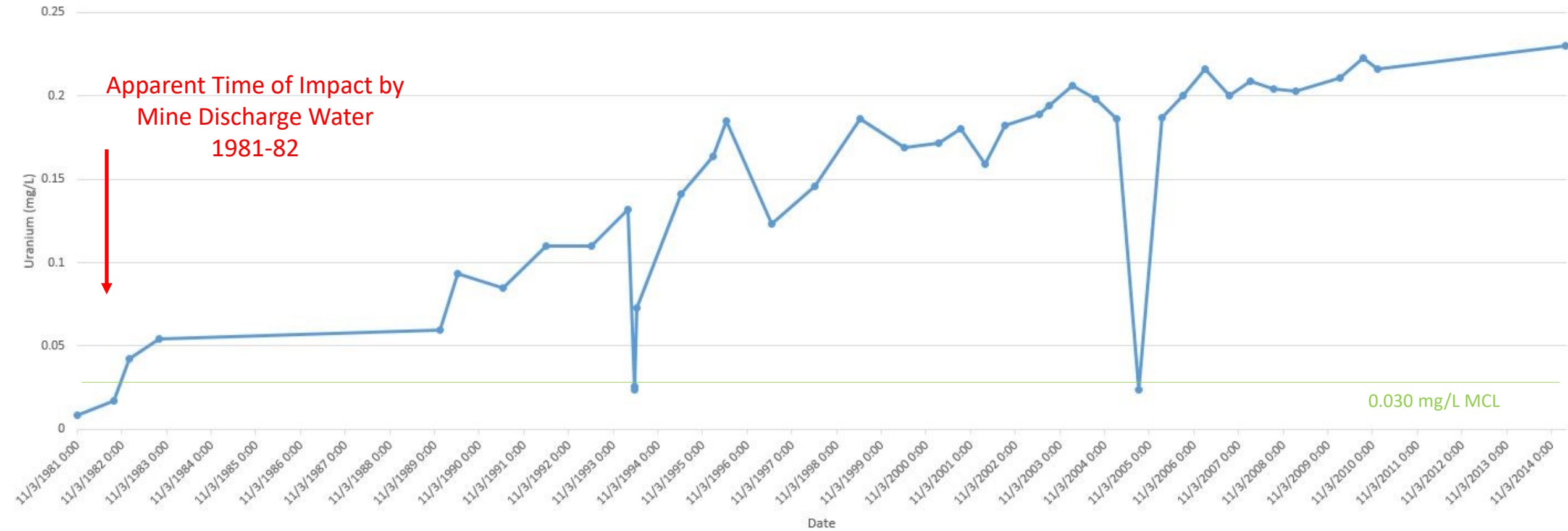


URANIUM CONCENTRATION MAP

2015

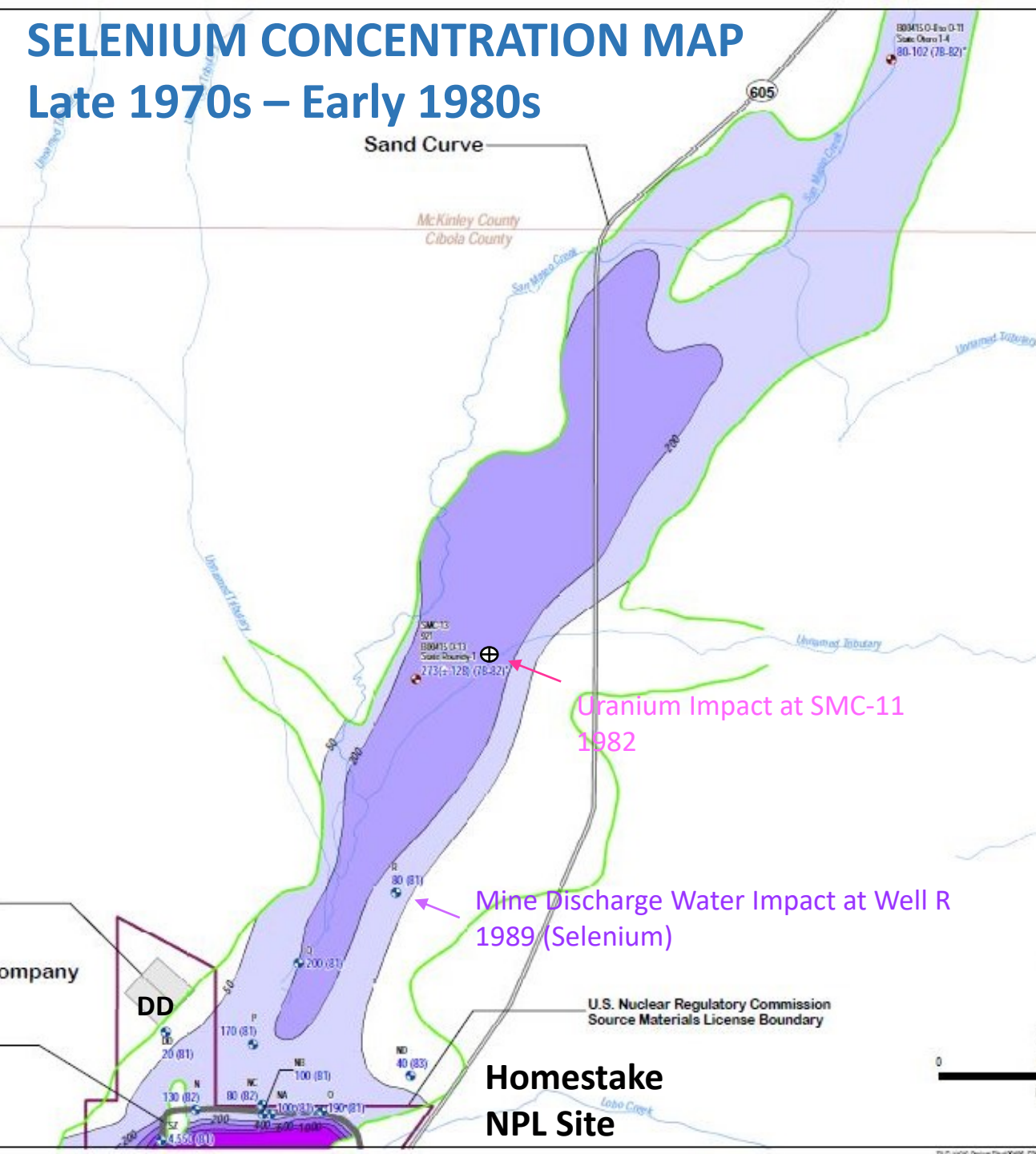


Homestake Well 920 (SMC-11) Uranium-Time Trend Plot



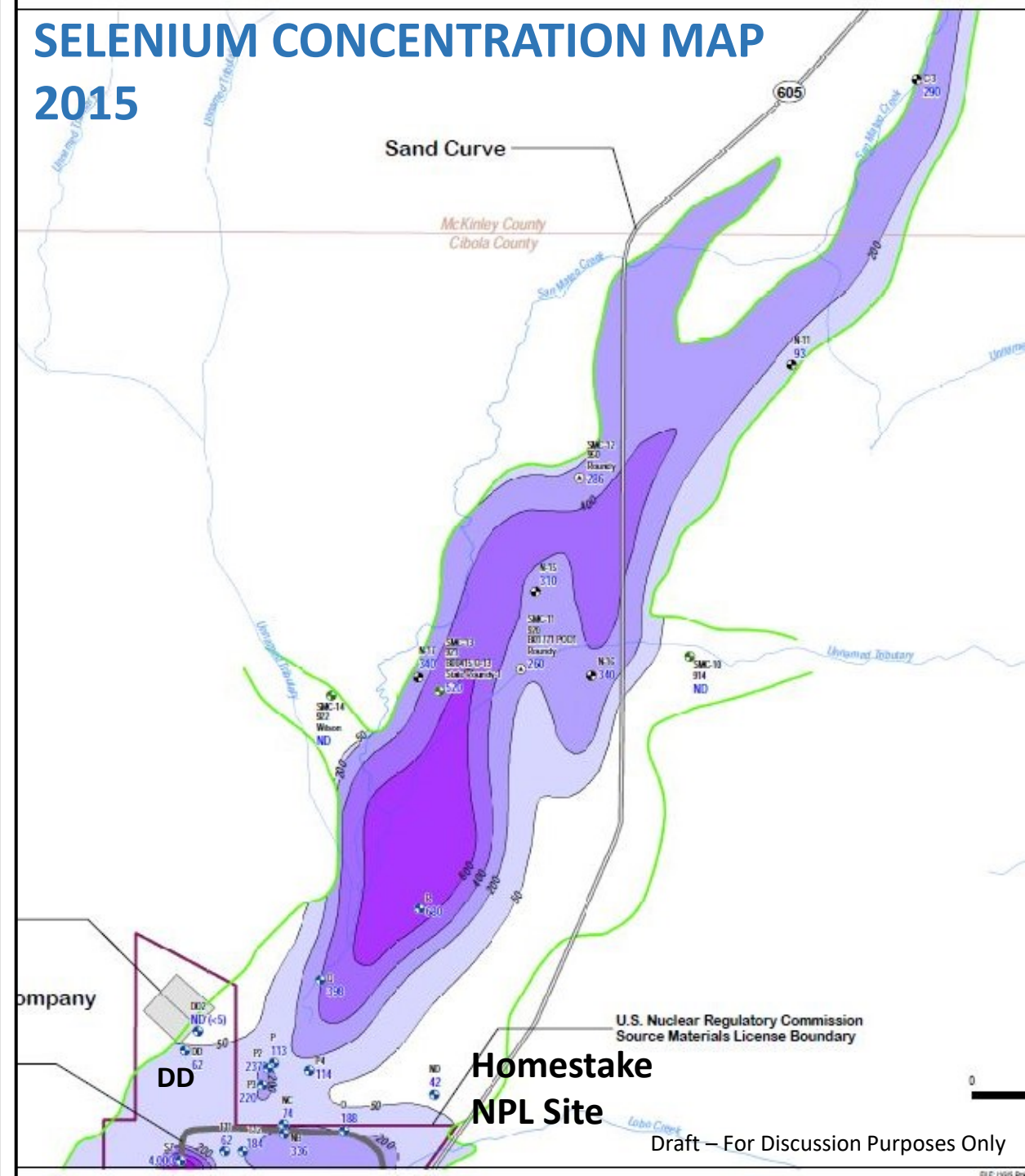
SELENIUM CONCENTRATION MAP

Late 1970s – Early 1980s

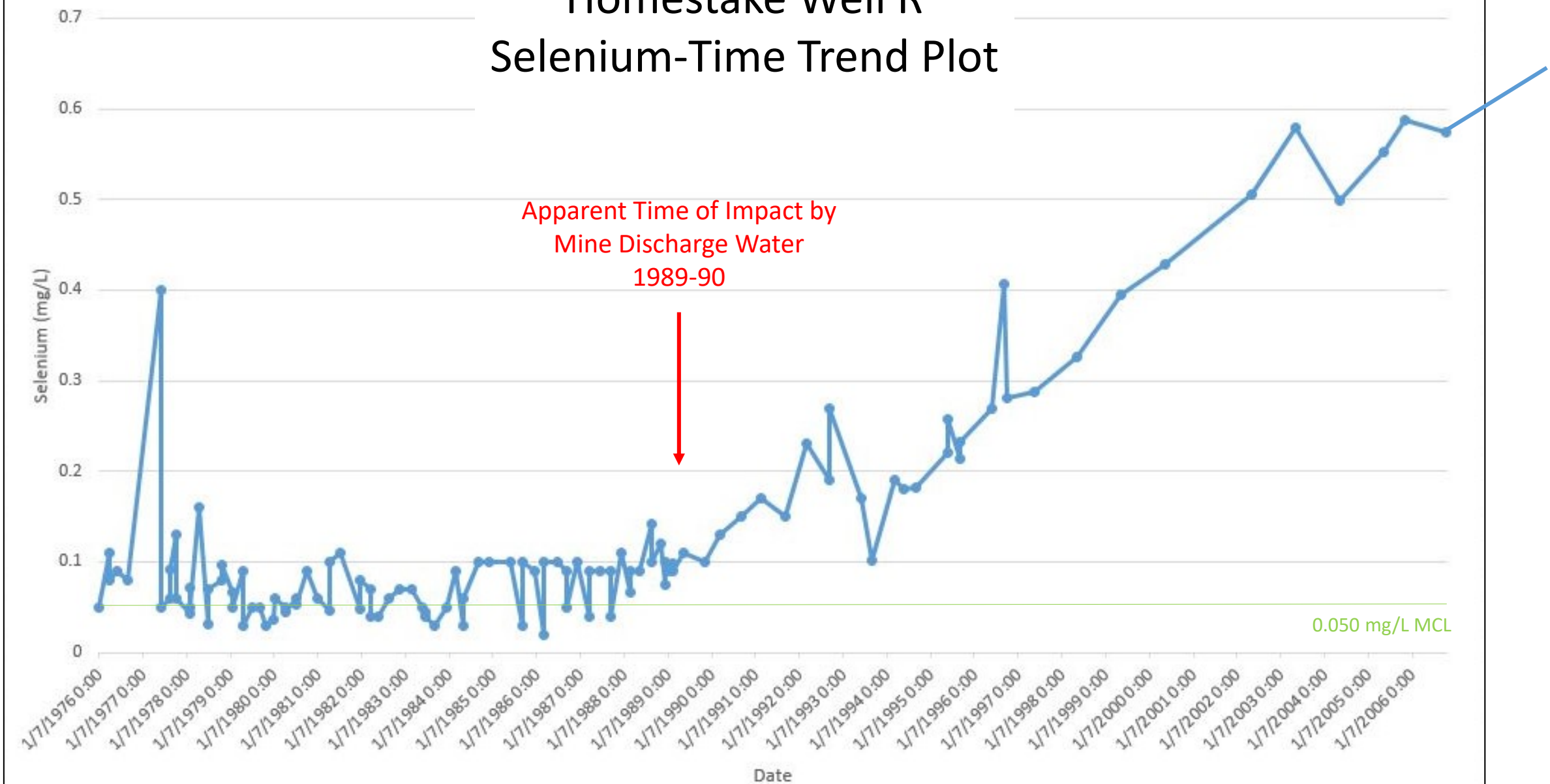


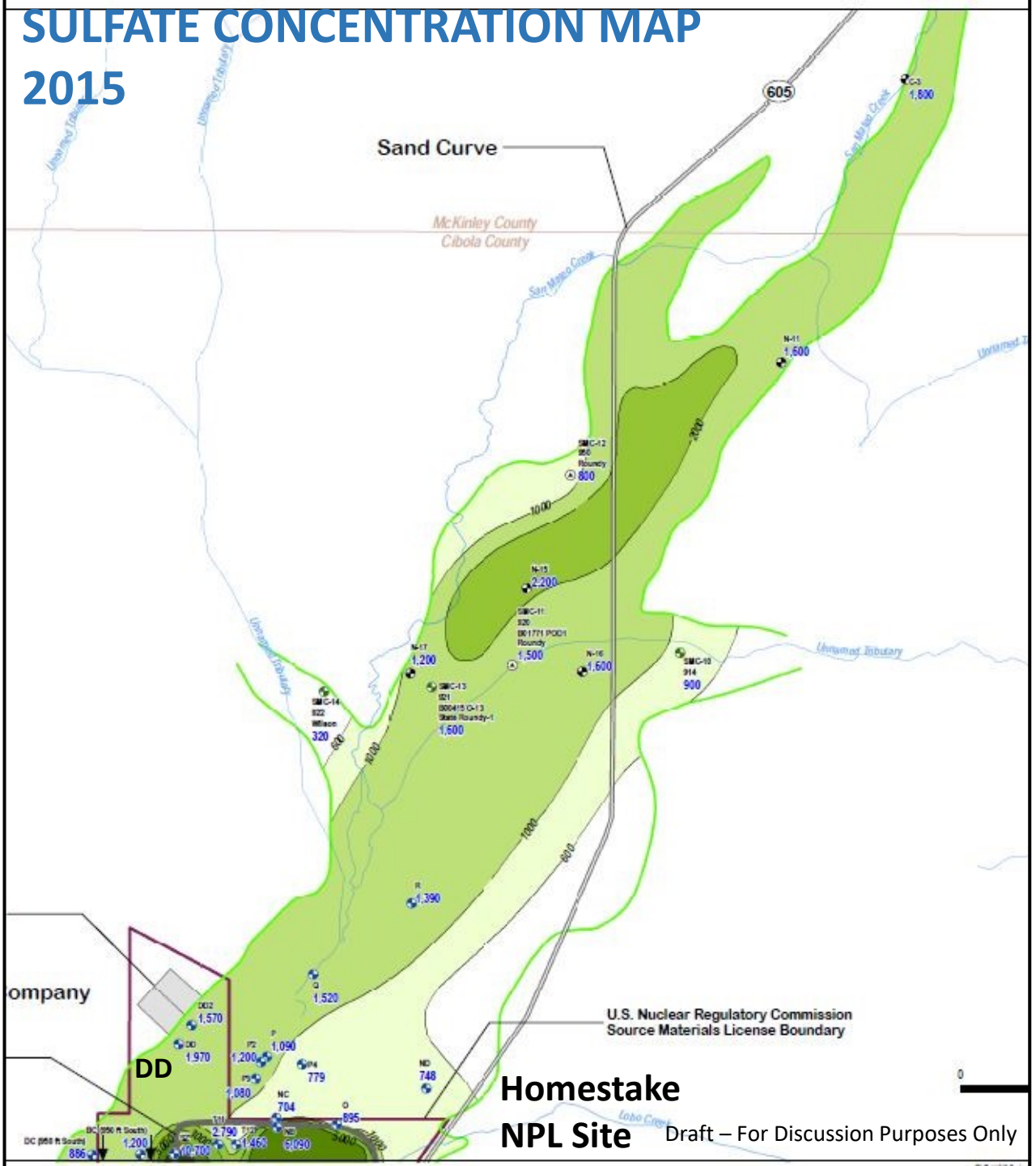
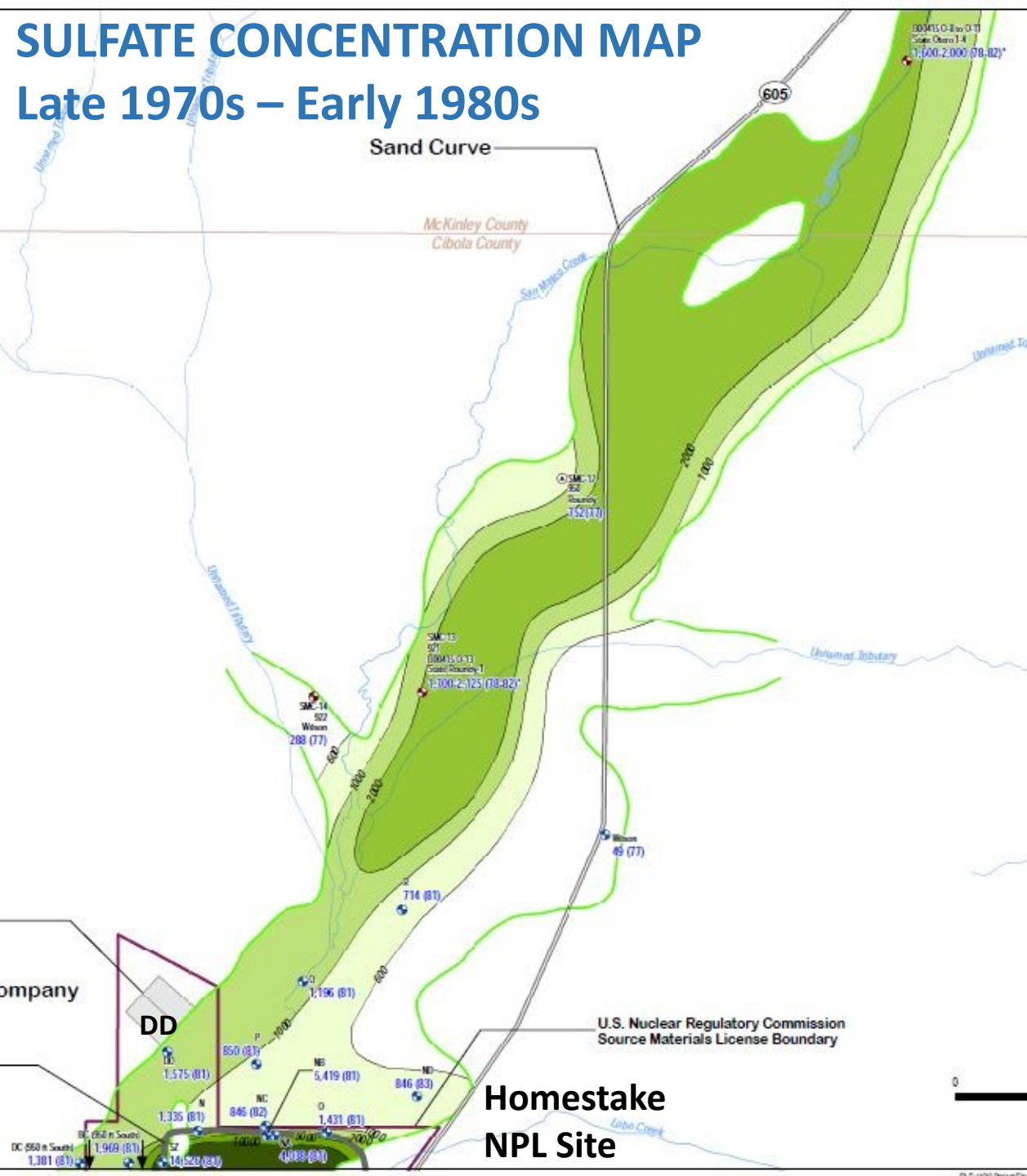
SELENIUM CONCENTRATION MAP

2015



Homestake Well R Selenium-Time Trend Plot



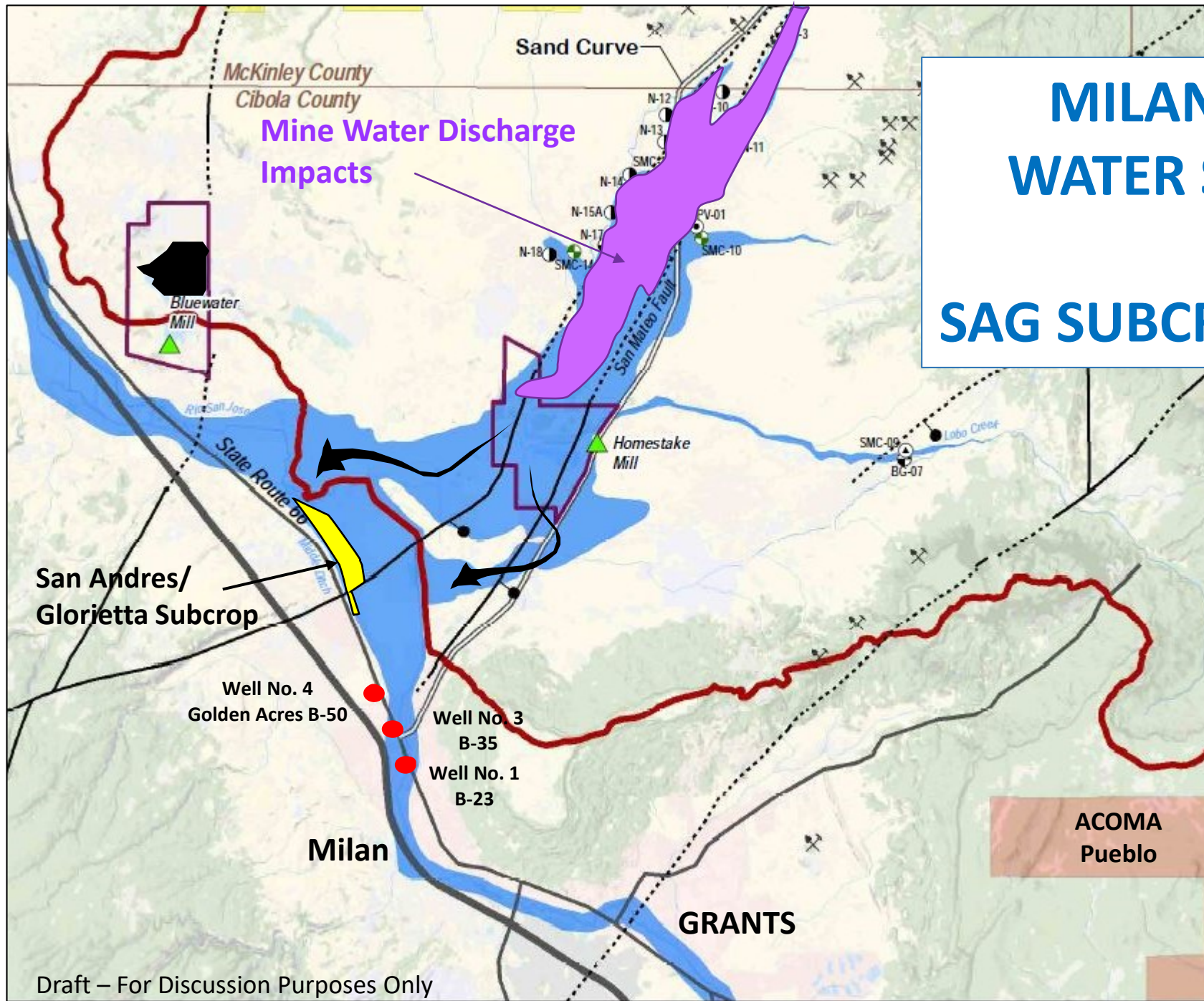


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Modified from
Homestake Mining Company
Draft Correction Action Plan

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MILAN MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY WELLS and SAG SUBCROP TO ALLUIUM

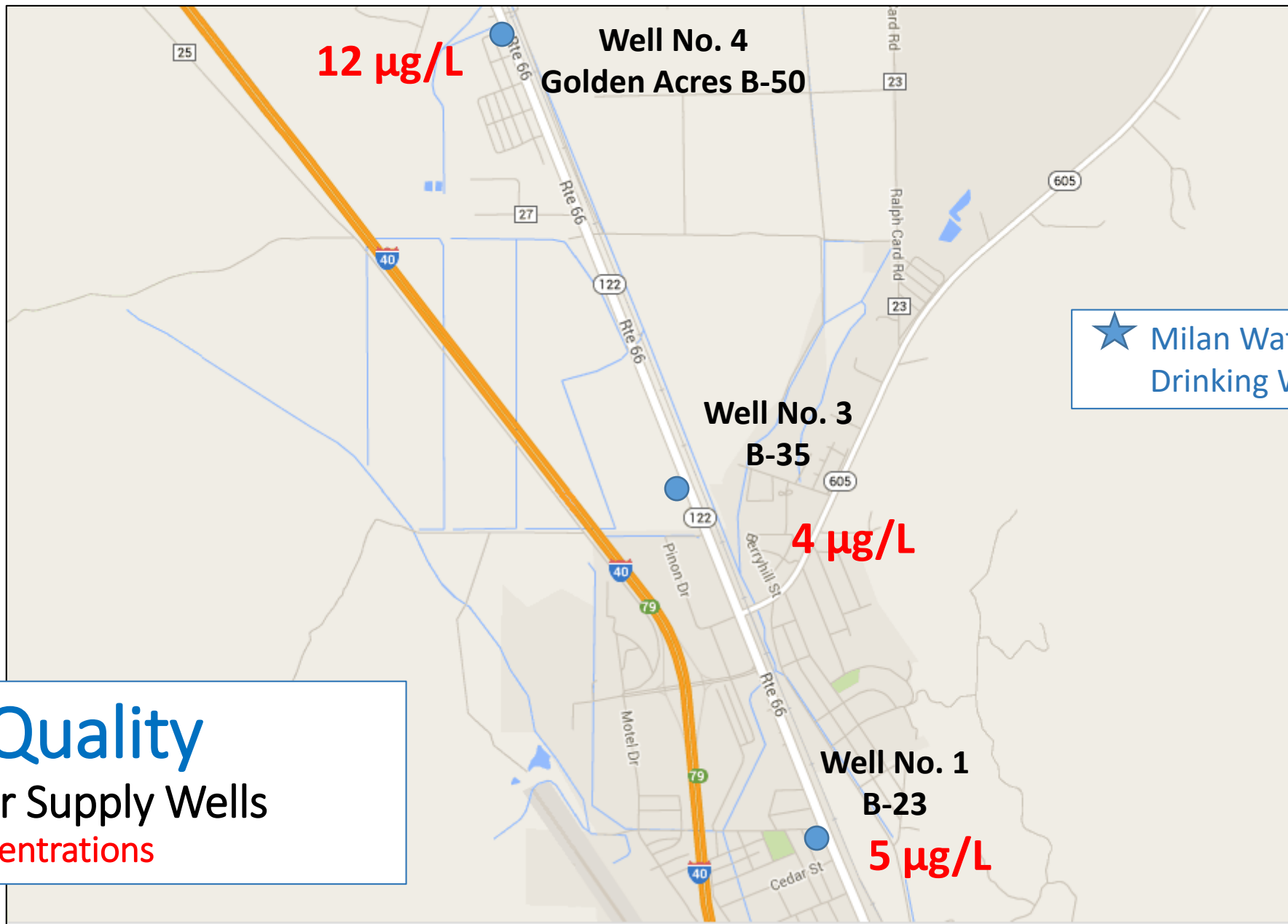


● Milan
Water Supply Well

Water Quality

Milan Water Supply Wells

Uranium Concentrations

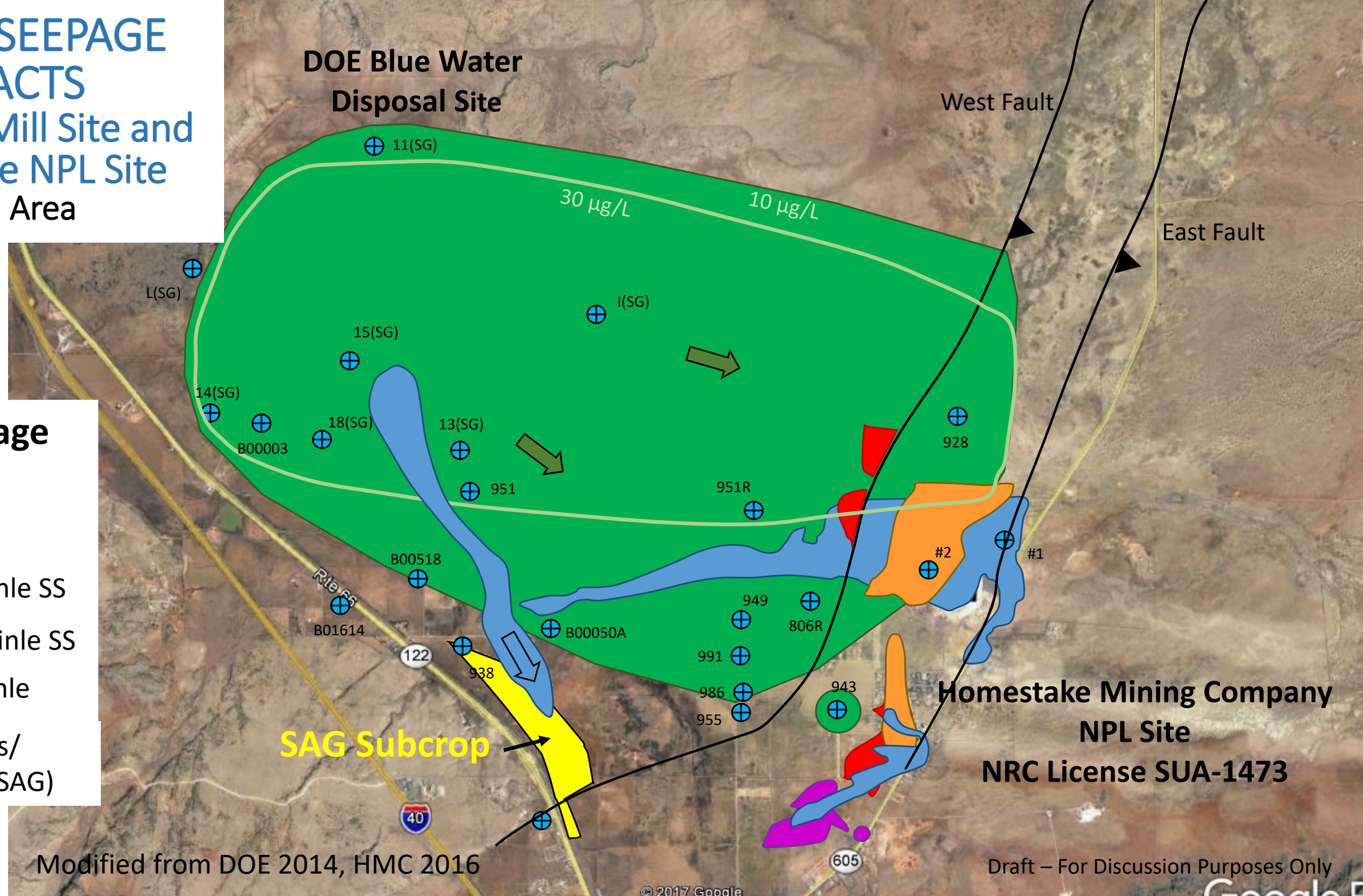


TAILING SEEPAGE IMPACTS

Bluewater Mill Site and
Homestake NPL Site
Milan Area

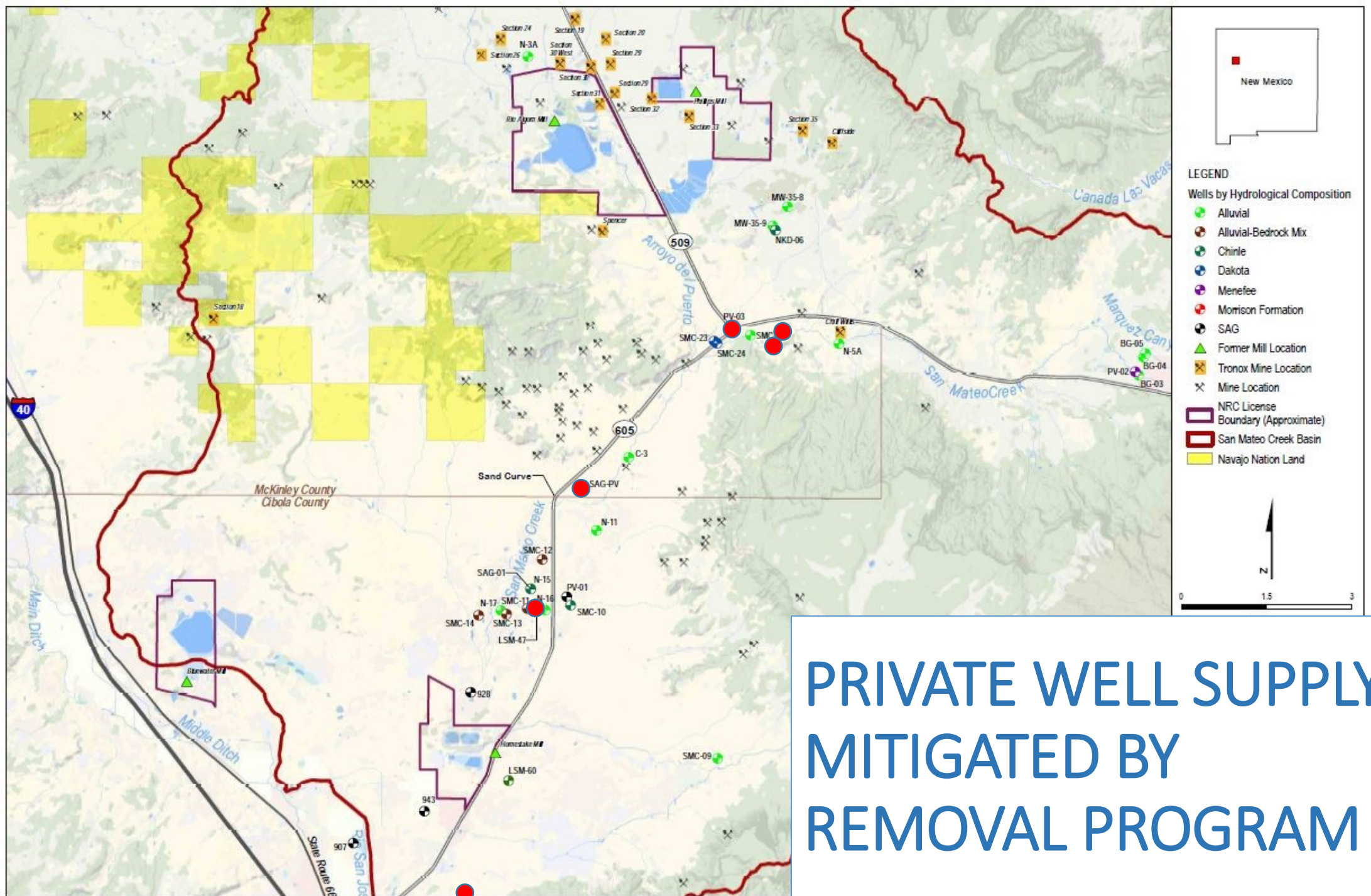
Tailing Seepage Impact

- Alluvium
- Upper Chinle SS
- Middle Chinle SS
- Lower Chinle
- San Andres/
Glorietta (SAG)



Modified from DOE 2014, HMC 2016

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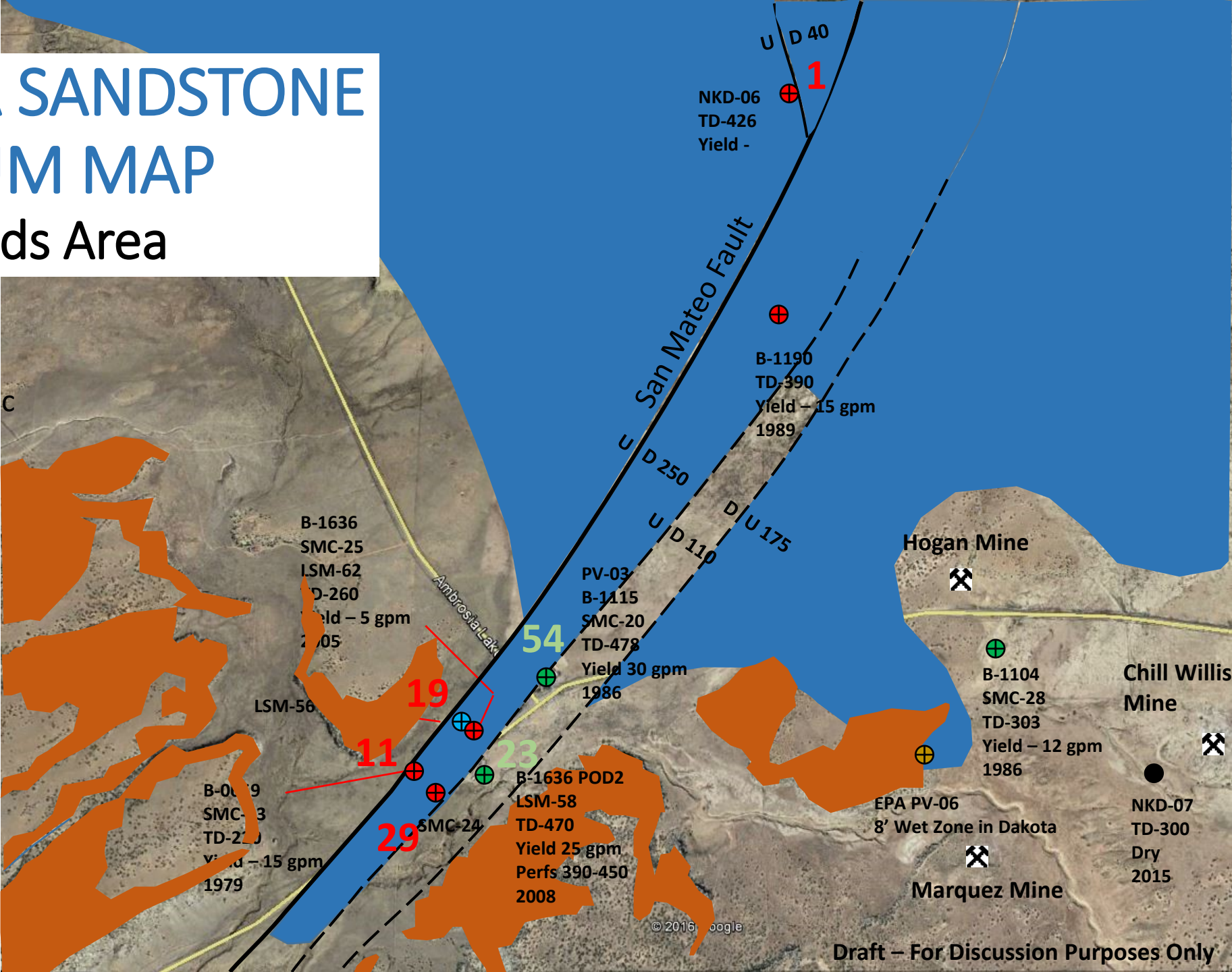


OTHER SLIDES

DAKOTA SANDSTONE URANIUM MAP

Cross-Roads Area

- 11** Kd – U Conc
- 23** Jmw – U Conc
- Kd Dry Hole
- ⊕ Kd
- ⊕ Jmw
- ⊕ Jmb
- Dakota Saturation
- Dakota Outcrop



BEDROCK GEOLOGY

